

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

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ARTHUR W. LEE and JOANNE LEE,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

ORDER

04-CV-3864 (ADS) (MLO)

LUHRS CORPORATION, OAKDALE YACHT
& BOAT SALES, INC. and L&B LINCOLN
MERCURY, INC.,

Defendants.

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APPEARANCES:

BAQUET & CURCIO, P.C.

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By: Thomas Charles Murphy, Esq., Of Counsel

NICOLETTI HORNIG CAMPISE SWEENEY & PAIGE

Attorneys for Defendant Oakdale Yacht & Boat Sales, Inc
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By: James F. Campise, Esq., and
Terry L. Stoltz, Esq., Of Counsel

KENNETH LEVINE, ESQ.

Attorney for the Defendant L & B Lincoln Mercury, Inc.
475 East Main Street, Suite 104
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SPATT, District Judge.

On July 20, 2004 the plaintiff's Arthur W. Lee and Joanne Lee (collectively, the "Lees" or the "Plaintiffs") commenced this action against the Luhrs Corporation ("Luhrs"), Oakdale Yacht & Boat Sales Inc. ("Oakdale"), and L & B Lincoln Mercury Inc. ("L & B") (collectively, the "Defendants") in the Supreme Court, County of Suffolk. On September 8, 2004, Oakdale removed this action to this Court on the basis that this was a case involving federal admiralty and maritime law. Thereafter, on October 7, 2004, the Plaintiffs filed a motion to remand this action back to State Court. The Plaintiffs also requested attorney's fees and costs incurred as a result of the removal pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1447(c). Oakdale does not oppose the motion to remand but objects to an award of attorney's fees and costs.

According to the provisions of section 1447(c), "[a]n order remanding the case may require payment of just costs and any actual expenses, including attorney fees, incurred as a result of the removal." The decision to grant attorney's fees "requires application of a test of overall fairness given the nature of the case, the circumstances of the remand, and the effect on the parties." *Morgan Guar. Trust Co. v. Republic of Palau*, 971 F.2d 917, 924 (2d Cir. 1992) (internal quotation marks omitted). "Though the Court has broad discretion to award such costs and expenses, district courts typically do not make such awards unless the removal appears to have been frivolous and not plausibly supported by some existing case law." *Intertec Contracting A/S Intertec (Gibraltara) Ltd. v. Turner Steiner International, S.A.*, No. 98 Civ. 9116,

2001 WL 812224, at *6 (S.D.N.Y. July 18, 2001) (internal quotations omitted).

In this case, the Court has reviewed the relevant facts and circumstances and finds that the removal was not frivolous and could be viewed as being supported by some case law. Accordingly, the Court declines to award attorney's fees and/or costs to the plaintiffs.

Based on the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that the Plaintiff's motion to remand this action to the State of New York Supreme Court, County of Suffolk is **GRANTED**; and it is further
ORDERED, that the Plaintiff's request for an award of attorney's fees and costs is **DENIED**; and it is further
ORDERED, that the Clerk of the Court is directed to close this case.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: Central Islip, New York
April 28, 2005

ARTHUR D. SPATT
United States District Judge